

Notice Regarding MALI

Military operations, including deployments and air strikes against Al-Qaida-linked insurgents controlling Mali's Northern provinces, continue throughout Mali. The French government authorized military intervention after it appeared that militants could break Mali's military defenses in government-controlled Mopti. The U.S. Embassy in Bamako has forbidden all travel by U.S. government employees and their dependents to regions north of the city of Mopti, to include Kidal, Gao and Timbuktu due to rebel activity. Several foreign companies, NGOs, and private aid organizations have temporarily suspended operations in Mali. Air strikes have included an airfield in the rebel controlled area of Gao. Civil aircraft operating in rebel controlled areas in the north are at risk of encountering small arms fire, including machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades, as well as possible anti-aircraft fire and MANPADS stolen from the arsenal of former Libyan leader Gadhafi. Operators, particularly those conducting air operations below 24,000 feet AGL, should cease or suspend operations in response to attacks affecting air and ground operations, and exercise vigilance to avoid potential hazards posed by military operations, including flights at all altitudes.

U.S. operators planning to fly into, out of, or over Mali must obtain current threat information; comply with all applicable FAA regulations and operations specifications, management specifications, or letters of authorization (specifically OpSpec/MSpec/LOA B450); and provide advance notice to the FAA at aeo-citewatch@faa.gov with specific flight details. Additionally, U.S. operators must report security incidents to the FAA at +1 202-493-5833 or +1 202 267-3333.